

U. S. PLANT PATENT APPLICATION OF

JOHN R. ROBB

FOR: LAVENDER PLANT NAMED

‘BARCELONA PURPLE’

ROBB, John R.

TITLE: LAVENDER PLANT NAMED 'BARCELONA PURPLE'

APPLICANT: JOHN R. ROBB

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR DESIGNATION:

Lavandula stoechas cultivar Barcelona Purple

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Lavender plant, botanically known as *Lavandula stoechas*, and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Barcelona Purple'.

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The new Lavender is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Kulnura, New South Wales, Australia. The objective of the breeding program was to create new compact and freely branching Lavender cultivars with large and attractive flowers and good garden performance.

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The new Lavender originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor in August, 1999, of the *Lavandula stoechas* cultivar Madrid Purple, not patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unknown selection of *Lavandula stoechas*, not patented, as the male, or pollen, parent. The new Lavender was discovered and selected by the Inventor as a single flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross-

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pollination grown in a controlled environment in Kulnura, New South Wales, Australia in 1999.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken at Kulnura, New South Wales, Australia, since October, 2000, has shown
5 that the unique features of this new Lavender are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar Barcelona Purple have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary
10 somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Barcelona Purple'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Barcelona Purple' as a new
15 and distinct cultivar:

1. Compact, upright and mounded plant habit.
2. Freely branching, dense and bushy plant form.
3. Dark purple-colored flowers with showy dark purple-colored terminal flower bracts.

Plants of the new Lavender differ from plants of the female parent, the cultivar Madrid Purple, in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Lavender are more compact and more dense than plants of the cultivar Madrid Purple.
- 5 2. Plants of the new Lavender have shorter peduncles than plants of the cultivar Madrid Purple.
3. Plants of the new Lavender have broader terminal flower bracts than plants of the cultivar Madrid Purple.

Plants of the new Lavender can be compared to plants of the cultivar Kew Red, not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted
10 by the Inventor in Kulnura, New South Wales, Australia, plants of the new Lavender differed from plants of the cultivar Kew Red in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of the new Lavender were denser and bushier than
15 plants of the cultivar Kew Red.
2. Plants of the new Lavender had darker purple-colored flower bracts than plants of the cultivar Madrid Purple.
3. Plants of the new Lavender were broader than plants of the cultivar Madrid Purple.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description which more accurately describe the actual colors of the new Lavender. The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Barcelona Purple' grown in a one-gallon container. The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a close-up view of typical leaves and inflorescences of 'Barcelona Purple'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. Plants used for the aforementioned photographs and following description were grown under conditions which closely approximate commercial production conditions during the winter in a polycarbonate-covered greenhouse in Lompoc, California for about 37 weeks in 1-gallon containers. During the production of the plants, day temperatures ranged from 18 to 24°C, night

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temperatures ranged from 16 to 18°C, and light levels ranged from 4,000 to 8,000 foot-candles.

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION:

Lavandula stoechas cultivar Barcelona Purple.

5 PARENTAGE:

Female parent: *Lavandula stoechas* cultivar Madrid Purple, not patented.

Male parent: Unknown selection of *Lavandula stoechas*, not patented.

10 PROPAGATION:

Type cutting: Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots:

Summer: About one week at 25°C.

Winter: About two weeks at 20°C.

15 Time to produce a rooted young plant:

Summer: About six weeks at 25°C.

Winter: About seven weeks at 20°C.

Root description: Fine, fibrous, and freely branching.

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PLANT DESCRIPTION:

Form: Perennial. Compact, upright and mounded plant form.
Freely branching, about nine main stems each with about five
lateral branches; dense and bushy plant habit; vigorous growth
habit. Flowers in verticillasters on crowded spikes with showy
terminal flower bracts.

Plant height: About 21 cm.

Plant width: About 30 cm.

Lateral branch description:

Length: About 18 cm.

Diameter: About 5 mm.

Internode length: About 1.8 cm.

Strength: Strong.

Aspect: Mostly upright.

Texture: Fine pubescence.

Color:

Developing stems: 194A.

Older woody stems: 199A.

Foliage description:

Arrangement: Opposite, simple; sessile.

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Length: About 3.1 cm.

Width: About 4 mm.

Shape: Linear.

Apex: Nearly round.

5 Base: Attenuate, clasping.

Margin: Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescence.

Fragrance: Very aromatic, pungent.

Venation pattern: Pinnate.

10 Color:

Developing foliage, upper and lower surfaces: 191A.

Fully expanded foliage, upper and lower surfaces:
191A.

Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 193A.

15 FLOWER DESCRIPTION:

Flower arrangement and shape: Small single flowers in compact
verticillasters on crowded spikes. Freely flowering, about 140
flowers per spike; flowers tubular with five lobes; inflorescences
with showy terminal bracts.

20 Natural flowering season: Continuous throughout the Spring.

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Flower longevity on the plant: Individual inflorescences last about two weeks on the plant and individual flowers last about three to four days on the plant. Flowers not persistent, terminal flower bracts persistent.

5 Flower buds:

Length: About 7 mm.

Diameter: About 3 mm.

Shape: Oblong.

Color: Darker than 79A.

10 Inflorescence size:

Length: About 3.8 cm.

Diameter: About 2 cm.

Flowers:

Diameter: About 5 by 5 mm.

15 Depth (height): About 9 mm.

Petals:

Arrangement: Five, fused into a tube.

Length, lobes: About 1.5 mm.

Width, lobes: About 1.5 mm.

20 Shape: Roughly spatulate.

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Apex: Rounded.

Margin: Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, velvety.

Color:

5 When opening and fully opened, upper surface: 79A.

 When opening and fully opened, lower surface: 79A.

Terminal flower bracts:

Arrangement: About four in a single whorl at inflorescence
apex.

10 Length: About 1.7 cm.

Width: About 1 cm.

Shape: Obovate.

Apex: Cordate.

Base: Attenuate.

15 Margin: Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth.

Color, immature, upper and lower surfaces: 79D.

Color, mature, upper and lower surfaces: 77A; towards
center, 201A.

Flower bracts:

Arrangement: Each whorl of flowers subtended by a flower bract.

Length: About 7 mm.

5 Width: About 7 mm.

Shape: Elliptic.

Apex: Rounded.

Base: Truncate.

Margin: Entire.

10 Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth.

Color, upper and lower surfaces: 193D; towards the apices, 79B; venation, 191A.

Calyx:

Arrangement: Five sepals fused into a tube.

15 Length: About 7 mm.

Width: About 3 mm.

Sepal apex: Acute.

Color, upper and lower surfaces: Towards the apex, 79B; towards the base, 194A.

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Peduncle:

Strength: Strong.

Length: About 1.8 cm.

Diameter: About 2 mm.

5 Aspect: Mostly upright.

Color: 148B.

Reproductive organs:

Stamens:

Quantity per flower: Four.

10 Anther shape: Oval.

Anther length: Less than 1 mm.

Anther color: 23A.

Pollen amount: Scarce.

Pollen color: 23A.

15 Pistils:

Quantity per flower: One.

Pistil length: About 8 mm.

Stigma shape: Rounded.

Stigma color: 79B.

20 Style length: About 6 mm.

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Style color: 79D.

Ovary color: 195C.

Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

DISEASE/PEST RESISTANCE:

5 Plants of the new Lavender have not been noted to be resistant to
 pathogens and pests common to Lavender.

WEATHER TOLERANCE:

 Plants of the new Lavender have exhibited good tolerance to rain
 and wind and have been observed to tolerate temperatures from -2
10 to 40°C.